

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3768 TO
ENSURE ZIP CODE ALLOCATION

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, it's *deja vu* all over again. In the 105th Congress I stood before this body and introduced a bill designed to ensure fairness in ZIP code allocation. I had hoped not to be here again in the 106th Congress. I had hoped to be in my district, announcing the creation of a unique ZIP code for the City of Signal Hill by the United States Postal Service. Instead, I am back before this body, reintroducing a bill I hope will be the end to this decade-long problem.

I rise today to re-introduce a bill that would ensure fairness in ZIP code allocation. This issue was brought to my attention by the ongoing plight of one city in my district—the City of Signal Hill. Signal Hill is a bustling community of over 9,000 residents located in Southern California, surrounded completely by the City of Long Beach. Unfortunately, this community's growth and economic expansion are hampered by the three-way division of the city among ZIP codes. While the issuance of five little numbers may not seem like a big deal to many of those in Washington, it is of paramount importance to this community back home.

Dividing a community results in mail addressing and delivery problems and higher insurance rates for residents. It is unfair at best and inefficient at worst to punish residents of Signal Hill with unnecessarily high costs simply because the Postal Service mandated this division without any input from this active community. I have worked with the United States Postal Service since I came to office over five and a half years ago to find a solution to this issue that benefits both parties, however I am afraid we have come to an impasse. The Postal Service refuses to allocate a unique ZIP code to this city despite the overwhelming evidence that Signal Hill needs and deserves its own ZIP code. The time has come for a new approach to this ongoing problem.

The bill I am re-introducing would ensure that all cities like Signal Hill can count on efficient mail service and a distinct community identity. It says any city with a population of at least 5,000 residents that is completely surrounded by another city would not have to share its Zip code with any other city. This legislation takes the politics out of Postal Service decision-making and institutes instead, a straightforward, fair system for ZIP code allocation. This bill will put an end to years of delivery problems, community identification problems and insurance rate problems. Simply put, an economically independent community should not be forced to share their identity with anyone else simply due to geography and Postal Service bureaucracy. The City of Signal Hill is a distinct and viable city and deserves to be recognized as such.

Mr. Speaker, the bill follows:

H.R. 3768

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ZIP CODE REQUIREMENT.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—Effective 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, no ZIP

code that is assigned to a city (or portion of a city) that is completely surrounded by any other city may also be assigned to any area outside of the city so surrounded.

(b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term "city" means any unit of general local government that is classified as a city, town, or municipality by the Bureau of the Census, and within the boundaries of which 5,000 or more individuals reside.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK
MONTH

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is a little known fact that March is Professional Social Work Month. Why is it that at a time when healthcare and child welfare are of utmost importance, we tend to overlook the middlemen? Is it that we forget about their role in today's society, or is it that we never learned about it in the first place?

I tend to think it is the latter reason. Social workers are the people who translate their education and training into commitment to making a difference in all aspects of people's lives. They are everywhere: in the courts, healthcare settings, schools, public and private agencies, congressional offices and industry, just to name a few. Often the public decries social problems that they would like solved; these are the people who work on a daily basis with individuals affected by them.

As a nurse, I am deeply concerned with the social problems plaguing the nation, and I worry about what is to come for future generations. As a legislator, I work to improve current problems by addressing these issues in Congress. In doing so, I recognize the vital importance of social work as a professional field of practice. It is one thing for us to acknowledge something as being a problem, it is another to be the person trying to fix it on a personal, case-by-case basis. I admire those who take on the responsibility of helping others help themselves.

It is easy to see why we overlook the importance of social workers. They work in the background, not in front of the television camera. They are not national figures, but ordinary people who make a living out of helping others. At the end of the day, one cannot measure in grand terms the effect they have had. But if we asked one of their clients, I am sure the difference they make would be obvious. They alter real lives.

I encourage you to take time to acknowledge the importance of social workers in everyday life. In a country that celebrates its diversity, culture, and history, it is appropriate to proclaim March to be Professional Social Work Month, and recognize the difference that these people have made and continue to make.

TRIBUTE TO ELOISE ROGERS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Eloise M. Rogers, a woman

of lasting commitment to service in her community. Just last week, Mrs. Rogers celebrated the happy occasion of her 100th birthday.

Born in 1900 in Charleston, South Carolina, Mrs. Rogers was the wife of the late Reverend Preston B. Rogers. Together, they had one son. Not only was Mrs. Rogers a wife and a mother, she was also a homemaker and a farmer. During this time she was active in her community as she served on the Deaconess Board, the Senior Choir, and as the Secretary for the Williamsburg Association. Mrs. Rogers active participation in her community remains as she now resides in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Currently, she is a member of the Joint Stock Liberty Worth Chapter 171 and a missionary.

Aside from being a selfless community servant, Mrs. Rogers is one of the many unsung heroes of the Civil Rights Movement that should be celebrated and remembered. She was among the first African Americans to register to vote in Williamsburg County of South Carolina, which is in the Sixth Congressional District I am pleased to represent in the House.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in paying a tribute to an individual who epitomizes the virtue of being a public servant. She has made her mark in the church and in the political world, and continues to take part in her community. I ask you to join me in congratulating Mrs. Eloise Rogers on her 100th birthday, and wish for her many happy returns.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I was away from the floor of the House on Tuesday, February 29, 2000, on official business and was unable to cast a recorded vote on rollcall 26.

Had I been present for rollcall 26, I would have voted "yea" on the motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 613, the Indian Tribal Economic Development and Contract Encouragement Act.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE FOR H.R. 2484

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the benefit of the Members a copy of the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.R. 2484, a bill to provide that land which is owned by the Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota but which is not held in trust by the United States for the Community may be leased or transferred by the Community without further approval by the United States. The bill was passed by the House of Representatives on February 29, 2000 by voice vote.